(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Adequate administrative and other arrangements exist to handle the heavy traffic being dealt with on Vijayawada Division.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Deaths due to tobacco consumption

3446. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per Lancet of July 18, 1987, between 630000 to one million deaths are caused in India due to tobacco consumption in various forms apart from tobacco related cancers and coronary heart diseases;

(b) whether it is also a fact that tobacco chewing in women increases incidence of still births three fold specially male foetus and if so, the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken ;

(c) whether Government propose to ban all smoking in public places and offices: and

(d) whether Government are supporting the voluntary agencies in dealing with this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes. It is estimated that between six to ten lakh deaths are caused in India due to tobacco consumption in various forms including deaths due to tobacco-related cancers, cardiovascular diseases, chronic obstructive lung diseases among others.

(b) Yes. The available evidence shows that tobacco chewing in women increases the incidence of still births three-fold especially of male foetuses. The Indian Council of Medical Research has undertaken/initiated projects aimed at testing the efficacy of an anti-tobacco education programme.

(c) The comprehensive campaign against smoking and tobacco consumption includes, apart from the statutory warning on cigarette packets and advertisements, enforcement of laws by some of the State Governments, prohibiting smoking in closed areas like cinemas, buses, educational institutions, hospitals etc.

(d) Government are supporting all measures to discourage smoking and use of other tobacco products.

Occupational hazard in the Tobacco Grower and Worker

3447. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 85000 million cigarette stocks and 300 million beedies are produced annually in the country at present and if so, what are the projections at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether any scientific studies have been conducted to examine the occupational hazards of tobacco on growers, handlers, factory workers and those involved in beedi rolling and if so, the details thereof indicating the various 'green symptoms' caused as a result thereof;

(c) whether malnutrition and poor health standards in the country make the smokers more susceptible to infection and disease;

(d) whether smoking is also known to cause miscarriages and if so, the details of such cases annually in India and in western countries like USA; and

(e) whether non smokers living or working with smokers are also more susceptible to diseases as also the children of smokers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) As per figures reported to the Directorate General, Techni-

cal Development, 84997 million pieces in 1984, 80631 million pieces in 1985 and 72675 million pieces in 1986 of Cigarettes were produced in the country in the organised sector. No figures are available in the case of production of Bidis. The available data is not suitable for any Plan projections.

(b) The studies conducted at the National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad have shown higher levels of nicotine and cotinine among the tobacco growers, handlers and factory workers. These workers have also shown 'green symptoms'.

(c) There are reasons to believe that infections and diseases affected more seriously the people who are in poor health and malnourished.

(d) Cigarette smoking by pregnant women is known to result in low birth weight in their newborn babies in the West. As smoking of cigarettes and bidis is not very common in Indian women, such studies have not been carried out in India. It is, however, known that pregnant women who chew tobacco have low birth weight babies.

(e) There is no authentic data available from India on the subject. However, the data from elsewhere shows that non-smokers living or working with smokers (passive smokers) have about two to three fold higher risk of lung cancer. It is biologically plausible as the side stream smoke contains carcinogens in much higher concentrations (e.g. nitrosamine is 52 times higher). Children who are passive smokers have a higher risk for lung infections.

Shortage of schools in Delhi

3448. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to increasing number of public/private schools in Delhi/New Delhi day by day it has become difficult for common men to give education to their children at a nearer distance in Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that common man residing in Vasant Vihar CPWD Complex, New Delhi are facing great hardships as the number of Primary/Middle/Senior Secondary schools are not sufficient to their requirement; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that in spite of various efforts by various residents of area/area associations/Sansthans, including Members of Parliament, the M.C.D. authorities has not so far opened any Primary School and if so, what are the reasons for delay and by when it is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Government schools are established in areas having sizeable number of school-going children. During 1987-88, Delhi Administration has opened a Middle School in Vasant Vihar. Besides, there are many other Government schools in areas around Vasant Vihar which cater to the educational needs of the children of that area.

(c) Primary School in CPWD housing complex, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi could not be opened during 1987-88 because the land could not be transferred in favour of M.C.D. and also because adequate number of children were not available. Opening of the school will depend upon the completion of these formalities.

इलाहाबाद रेलवे स्टेशन पर यात्रियों को समक्ष आ रही कठिनाइयां

3449. श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि इलाहाबाद रेलवे स्टेशन के जिस प्लेटफार्म पर प्रयागराज एक्सप्रेस पहुंचती है, टिकट घर से यात्रियों को